THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) do not arise.

Waiting-list of telephone connections in J&K

1927. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on waiting-list for telephone connections in Jammu & Kashmir as on the 31st March, 2003;

(b) whether any time-frame has been fixed for clearance of the waitlisted applications; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The number of persons on waiting-list for telephone connections in Jammu and Kashmir as on the 31st March 2003 is 43969.

(b) Efforts are being made to clear the waiting-list in the current financial year *i.e.* by 31.3.2004.

(c) Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) system has already been installed at 13 places and non-feasible cases are being cleared. During 2003-04 BSNL has plannned to add 17000 lines of switching capacity and 15000 lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) capacity in Jammu & Kashmir.

C.A.G's revelation of shortcomings of MTNL Services

1928. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the performance review by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the quality services provided by the MTNL has revealed several shortcomings;